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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

BONTJER, Marcus Bernhard Hubert, et al.

SERIAL NO.:

NA NA

FILED

TITLE

METHOD FOR PHASED SEPARATION OF A SAUSAGE

STRAND, SEPARATING ELEMENT AND ASSEMBLY OF

SEPARATING ELEMENTS

Group/A.U.

Examiner

Conf. No.

P07009US0

Docket No. Customer No.:

34082

Commissioner for Patents

BOX PCT

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified national phase application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this document and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 6, 2006.

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